GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1187
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2008
CUSTOMS DUTY ON HEARING AIDS
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama;Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether semi precious stones attract five per cent customs duty, while hearing aids attract fifteen per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reduce the customs duty on equipment of the disabled within five per cent range; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b) At present,semi-precious stones attract 5% basic customs duty whereas hearing aids are completely exempt from basic customs duty and countervailing duty.

(c)&(d) At present,22 types of assistive devices,rehabilitation aids and other goods for disabled,including hearing aids are completely exempt from basic customs duty and countervailing duty.